

These citizens, fast asleep, could have been overcome by smoke inhalation and perished in their home. Officer Sanchez and Officer Naugle-Dudek displayed heroism while disregarding their own personal safety during the structure fire.

Officer Teresa Naugle-Dudek and Officer Ernie Sanchez were awarded this Medal of Valor on April 17, 2002.

Undaunted, all of these men and women acted with great courage, in concert with one another and with the highest degree of professionalism. And it is their undying commitment to public safety and law enforcement that is so essential to the health of our communities. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I congratulate these individuals on their receipt of this tremendous honor.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ON THEIR ORANGE BOWL VICTORY

HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the accomplishments of the University of Southern California football team. Congratulations are indeed in order for USC President Steven Sample, Head Coach Pete Carroll, and the Orange Bowl champions, who finished the season with the #1 ranking in the Sagarin and Matthews/Scripps Howard ratings and the nation's #4 ranking in the final AP and ESPN/USA Today polls.

The USC Trojan football team has shown unique skill, charisma, dedication, and love for the sport. The Trojans accumulated an 11 and 2 win-loss record while competing against some of the best programs in the country. The Trojans regular season performance and their strength of schedule earned them a Bowl Championship Series, or BCS, berth. Teamwork and a motivated work ethic combined to create second half domination over Iowa in the Orange Bowl. After going into the half tied 10-10, the Trojans mounted long touchdown marches on their first three possessions of the second half to blow open the game. USC finished the game 38-17, defeating a higher ranked Iowa Hawkeye team.

Now is also the appropriate time to congratulate quarterback Carson Palmer for winning the prestigious Heisman Trophy. This is the first time the trophy has returned to the west coast since USC running back Marcus Allen managed the feat 21 years ago. Carson Palmer is the 5th Heisman winner from USC. Palmer himself summed up the Trojan mind set this year when he stated, "I couldn't be more honored to take this trophy back to share with my teammates in Los Angeles . . . This award is as much theirs as it is mine."

Mr. Speaker, again I congratulate USC President Steven Sample, Head Coach Pete Carroll, and the football team at the University of Southern California for a season to remember.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE TO THE FAMILIES OF THE CREW OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE "COLUMBIA"

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2003

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I wish to honor the lives of the seven courageous individuals who tragically perished aboard the Space Shuttle *Columbia* on Saturday morning. Michael Anderson, David Brown, Kalpana Chawla, Laurel Clark, Rick Husband, William McCool, and Ilan Ramon are true heroes who leave behind a legacy of cooperation, hard work, and friendship that will live on and inspire future generations of scientists and space explorers. I offer my deepest condolences to the astronauts' families.

In the midst of this tragedy, may our Nation and the international community also pay homage to all of the selfless, courageous astronauts of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and other space agencies around the world. These men and women venture into the unknown in search of new knowledge. These complex, grueling, and dangerous missions have been the source of some of the greatest technological gains in history.

The goal of every astronaut is ultimately the betterment of mankind, and the seven explorers we lost on Saturday were working towards exactly that. They were working to understand complex mechanisms in the human body, collecting samples of their own blood, urine, and saliva to detect possible bone loss, kidney stones, muscle loss, or weakening of immune systems, to lead to developments in healthcare—like the dialysis equipment that my mother uses.

As the astronauts watched the Earth spin below them, observing climatic and atmospheric phenomena, they worked on projects to help lessen our footprint on the planet, including researching low-level combustion for use in leaner-burning automobile engines. The data from their research will have impact far into the future.

As people in my district of El Paso and across the Nation watched the *Columbia* fall from the sky on Saturday morning, we were gripped with awe and fear. We will rise out of this tragedy. The lessons that we learn from this day will bring us to a brighter tomorrow, a future in which more passionate young men and women truly become citizens of the universe, looking at the world from the vantage point of the stars. The crew of the *Columbia* lived an adventure which most of us can only imagine. As long as children look up to the sky and dream of touching the stars or standing on the moon, our memories of these brave men and women will live on.

THE RIM OF THE VALLEY CORRIDOR STUDY ACT

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Rim of the Valley Corridor Study

Act, directing the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to study the feasibility of expanding the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include the mountains and canyons in Southern California that are part of the Rim of the Valley Corridor, as designated by the State of California.

The National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service would jointly study the suitability of more than doubling the size of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area by encompassing this corridor, which contains areas of rare Mediterranean ecosystems and encircles the mountains above the San Fernando, La Crescenta, Santa Clarita, Simi, and Conejo Valleys, as well as the famed Arroyo Seco, home of Pasadena's Rose Bowl.

For many residents of Southern California, the mountains above our communities are a nearby haven to enjoy nature, a refuge from the noise and commotion of Los Angeles. Our mountains can and should be places where city-dwellers can easily go to enjoy such activities as hiking, camping, mountain biking, horseback riding, observing wildlife, and admiring nature's scenic beauty. Given the tremendous growth pressures in Southern California, we must act now to preserve our precious open space. It is my hope that the Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act will embody a dream and vision of a Southern California enhanced not only by what was built, but also by what was preserved.

The National Park Service oversees the highly successful Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, the world's largest urban park, spanning from the mountains to the sea and protected in perpetuity by Congress in 1978. Inclusion of the Rim of the Valley Corridor would link wildlife habitat in the Santa Monica Mountains to the Angeles National Forest.

The Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act would require the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to complete their study within one to three years, consulting with state and local government entities. It would then be necessary for Congress to enact subsequent legislation to implement the study's recommendations.

I am pleased that this legislation has bipartisan support, with Reps. HOWARD BERMAN, DAVID DREIER, GEORGE MILLER, BRAD SHERRMAN, and HILDA SOLIS as principal co-sponsors. I am delighted that the senior Senator from California, Senator FEINSTEIN, is also introducing this important legislation today.

The Rim of the Valley Corridor Study Act will result in an initiative creating a lasting legacy of nearby natural open space for our children—and their children—to enjoy.

HONORING RICHARD WILLIAMS, JR.

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Richard Williams, Jr., who served as Blount County Commissioner from 1984 until recently.

Commissioner Williams was dedicated to his family, faith and Country. He was a great American.

An active member of the Blount County community, Commissioner Williams was a Sunday school teacher and chairman of the Board of Deacons at St. John Baptist Church of Alcoa. He was Past Master of Granite Masonic Lodge No. 289, Past Commander in Chief of Alcoa Consistory No. 175, Past Potentate of Almas Shrine Temple No. 71, and was named Mason of the Year.

In 2002 he received the Governor's Tennessee Volunteer Commendation Award and was listed in Who's Who Among Black Americans. Williams was also a member of the Alcoa Rotary and American Legion Post 18.

When he was elected to Blount County's governing body in 1984, he became the second African-American elected official in Blount County in the twentieth century and the third in the county's history.

Above all, he cherished his family. Commissioner Williams was married to Evelyn Robinson Williams for over forty years. He loved being a husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

This Nation is a better place because of Commissioner Williams, and I want, in this small way, to express my great appreciation for his service and my heartfelt condolences to his family.

HONORING STANLEY EUGENE
TOLLIVER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Stanley Eugene Tolliver—respected attorney, civic activist, community advocate, dedicated family man, and friend and mentor to countless—as he is sworn-in as President of the Norman S. Minor Bar Association.

Mr. Tolliver was born and raised in Cleveland, and has reflected a life-long commitment to education for himself and for others. After attending the Cleveland Public Schools, Mr. Tolliver received his undergraduate degree at Baldwin Wallace College with a major in pre-law. He was awarded his law degree from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 1951. Mr. Tolliver passed the bar exam in 1953 while serving in the United States Army. In 1969, he received a Juris Doctor degree from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

He embarked upon his journey of public service in the seventies, when he was appointed by Judge Frank Batisti to the Committee of the Office of School Monitoring and Community Relations. Mr. Tolliver was elected to the Cleveland School Board in 1981; re-elected in 1985, 1989, and elected as President of the School Board in 1987. In 1990, Mr. Tolliver was reelected as President of the School Board. Besides his dedication to the education of our youth, Mr. Tolliver has been equally committed to social justice issues. He is an active member of the Black Elected Democrats of Cleveland; a life-long member of the NAACP; an Executive Committee Member of the Cleveland NAACP; and an active member of the Cleveland Citizens Committee Against Dual Law Enforcement. Additionally, Mr. Tolliver has served as legal counsel to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Southern Christian

Leadership Conference and the Congress of Racial Equality. Mr. Tolliver acted as the legal advisor for the Shield Club, and initiated the indictment of ten Cleveland police officers for violent crimes.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Stanley Eugene Tolliver, and his continued commitment to our community. His work, expertise and dedication have served to uplift, improve and unify our entire citizenry. Mr. Tolliver's strong leadership abilities, vision, and passion for social justice for all has earned him the deep admiration and respect of the Cleveland community, as well as the entire Greater Cleveland community.

INTRODUCING THE SALES TAX EQUITABILITY ACT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Sales Tax Equitability Act, important legislation which would eliminate the discrimination faced by individuals who live in States that have no income tax.

Under current law, individuals can deduct their State income tax from their Federal income tax. Unfortunately, in many States like Texas, which has no State income tax, residents are not eligible for this deduction. Even though they pay State sales taxes that are equitable to income taxes in other States, these individuals are penalized because they don't pay a State income tax. This situation is patently unfair.

The legislation I am introducing today would allow residents of States with no income tax to deduct their sales tax from their Federal income tax. This legislation would provide fairness for all Americans by ensuring that, in States where there is no income tax, State and local sales taxes are treated the same as income taxes.

I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF RABBI SIDNEY KLEIMAN

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Rabbi Sidney Kleiman on the occasion of his 90th birthday. Both a scholar and a vigorous leader, Rabbi Kleiman inspires his community and congregation with his pious dedication and moving sermons.

With the longest active tenure of service in the same synagogue of any living rabbi, Rabbi Kleiman, has been serving New York City's historic Congregation Talmud Torah Adereth El for over 60 years. First as Rabbi from 1939–1999, he now serves as Rabbi Emeritus since 2000.

Rabbi Kleiman tells the story of how he became rabbi of Adareth El. "In 1939, I was Rabbi of the Jewish Center of Violet Park [in Bronx]. A Mr. Finkel, of blessed memory, was a member of my shul and also a member of

the 29th Street shul. He noticed that I left every morning to go down to Henry Street on the lower east side, to take my children to school in the yeshiva, and that I would go back every afternoon to pick them up. Mr. Finkel said to me, "Rabbi, you can't keep this up! You will not last, it is too much for you. There is an excellent opportunity, the 29th Street shul is looking for a Rabbi. The position would be perfect for you." Rabbi Kleiman was happy in his current position, but Mr. Finkel persisted. Rabbi Kleiman agreed to preach a sermon one Shabbos, with the understanding that he was not applying for the position of Rabbi.

He recounts, "The Saturday I preached was the week that Britain's Prime Minister Chamberlain had held his now infamous meeting with Hitler in Munich. When Chamberlain returned to 10 Downing Street, it was a rainy day. He opened up his umbrella and declared to the world: Peace in our time! The title of the sermon I preached that Shabbos was Peace Not in Our Times." Rabbi Kleiman explains that Chamberlain should have known from his meeting that Hitler was out to destroy the Jewish people and their rich culture. In the pacifist and isolationist climate of the United States during that time, the Rabbi stressed that the prestige of the Jewish people and their leaders had to be raised. In his words, "The congregation said that if this Rabbi is crazy enough to deliver this kind of sermon when America is so isolationist and pacifistic, let's elect him for six months and then fire him. And so it was. Every six months I was fired and re-hired. And that's how I lasted 60 years!"

And after fifty years as Rabbi, the Board of Trustees at Adereth El asked him if he would consider retiring. He said, "No Way!" He told them that his mother lived to 104 and was alert to the last day and he expects to outlive her. Currently, after 60 years of outstanding service and leadership, Rabbi Kleiman has been given the new honor and title of Rabbi Emeritus, which he expects to be for at least another fifty years.

Congregation Talmud Torah Adereth El, founded in 1857, has the distinction of being the only Jewish congregation in New York City to have worshipped for more than 140 years on the same site. Since 1863, Adereth El has been located on East 29th Street. The original design and integrity of the synagogue's simple and dignified interior has been substantially unaltered. Today, the congregation continues to provide a spiritual home to over 150 New York City families. The contributions of Congregation Talmud Torah Adereth El have touched many lives by providing spiritual guidance as well as fostering an enduring spirit of community. This spirit of giving is epitomized by the dedication and selflessness exhibited by Rabbi Kleiman.

For his unwavering dedication to his community and congregation, Rabbi Kleiman will forever remain a prominent and lasting community and spiritual leader.

In recognition of Rabbi Kleiman's lifetime of service and leadership of Congregation Talmud Torah Adereth El, I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting Rabbi Kleiman and the congregation on his 90th birthday celebration.